

Production No. 1F22

The Simpsons

"BART OF DARKNESS"

Written by

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RECORD

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"BART OF DARKNESS"

Cast List

HOMER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MARGE.....JULIE KAVNER
BART.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
LISA.....YEARDLEY SMITH
NED FLANDERS.....HARRY SHEARER
TV VOICE (O.S.).....HARRY SHEARER
MAN (O.S.).....DAN CASTELLANETA
ANOTHER MAN.....HANK AZARIA
OTTO.....HARRY SHEARER
MARTIN.....RUSSI TAYLOR
SALESMAN.....HANK AZARIA
AMISH MAN.....HANK AZARIA
JIMBO.....PAMELA HAYDEN
MOB OF TEENAGERS.....ALL
LAST TEENAGER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MILHOUSE.....PAMELA HAYDEN
KIDS.....ALL
NELSON.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
A DOZEN LITTLE GIRLS....NANCY/PAM/YEARDLEY
NURSE.....MAGGIE ROSWELL
DR. HIBBERT.....HARRY SHEARER
SHERRI.....RUSSI TAYLOR
TERRI.....RUSSI TAYLOR

CUTE BOY.....HANK AZARIA
UGLY CHUBBY BOY.....PAMELA HAYDEN
SECOND CUTE BOY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
WENDELL.....PAMELA HAYDEN
BART'S BRAIN.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
KRUSTY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
YOUNG KRUSTY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
GEORGE.....HARRY SHEARER
KIDS.....ALL
RALPH WIGGUM.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
FIRST KID.....PAMELA HAYDEN
SECOND KID.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
WIGGUM.....HANK AZARIA
JAILBIRD.....HANK AZARIA
OLD WOMAN.....YEARDLEY SMITH
SCARY MAN.....HARRY SHEARER
TODD.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
ROD.....PAMELA HAYDEN
ENGLISH BOY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
LISA'S BRAIN.....YEARDLEY SMITH
GRAMPA.....DAN CASTELLANETA
ALARM (V.O.).....PAMELA HAYDEN
POLICE DEPT. MACHINE....HANK AZARIA
MAUDE.....MAGGIE ROSWELL
LOU.....HANK AZARIA

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ACT ONE

Scene 1

FADE IN:

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE AND ENVIRONS - DAY

MUSIC: TENSE, SULTRY, ENNIO MORRICONE-STYLE

It's a sweltering summer day. PAN THROUGH the sun-parched landscape, in the manner of Sergio Leone. In the backyard, a heat-blurred shape approaches, gradually coming into focus, a la "High Plains Drifter." When it focuses, it's NED FLANDERS, riding a lawn mower.

NED

(THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

WHISTLE, THEN SINGING) I'm thirs-ty.

(GOOD BAD AND UGLY WHISTLE, THEN

SINGING) Lemon-ade me.

His wife MAUDE hands him an icy glass of lemonade.

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - ANOTHER ANGLE

A wilted LISA sits on the sofa, watching TV, fanning herself wearily. Ned rides by, framed in the window. He waves.

NED

(CHIPPER) Buenas-diddly-dias, Lisa!

(MOPS BROW) Phew! Dog-diggity hot
enough for ya?

LISA

(WEAK LAUGH)

Ned takes a big swig of his lemonade and drives off.

Scene 1 Cont'd.

TV VOICE (O.S.)

"Cauldron Creatures from Planet
Sweatbox" in Thermo-Vision will
continue, after this message from
Duraflame.

With a weary **SIGH**, Lisa gets up and goes to the kitchen.

INT. REFRIGERATOR - CLOSE UP - CONTINUOUS

HOMER is adjusting the "coldness" dial. He turns the dial
from "nine" to "ten." He **EXHALES**; his breath is visible.

Widen to reveal Homer and BART, sitting in their underwear.
They've propped the refrigerator door open, and connected
an old pup tent to the opening. They sit on the floor and
rub boxes of frozen vegetables against themselves.

BART

Homer, my hat goes off to you.

HOMER

It's cool in here, boy. For the rest
of the summer, we can live inside the
refrigerator.

Lisa and MARGE stick their heads in through the tent.

MARGE

Homer, the fridge wasn't meant to be
used this way. (BEAT) Although I must
say, it's certainly refreshing.

Marge and Lisa join them. A beat later MAGGIE crawls into
the tent and onto a bowl of Jello which jiggles, gently
rocking her to sleep.

HOMER

(PROUDLY) I got the idea when I noticed
the refrigerator was cold.

Scene 1 Cont'd

MARGE

Won't this overload the motor?

We hear the motor **LABOR** and start to **WIND DOWN**. The **WINDING** sounds like the **END THEME** to "The Three Stooges." It **SPUTTERS** to a stop.

HOMER

All right, everybody into the washing machine.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Scene 2

Marge sits in a rocking chair with Maggie. An electric fan is blowing, tilting Marge's hair over. She turns on a fan on the opposite side, which straightens it, but then her hair tilts over a third way. Bart, Lisa and Homer are lying around, faint from the heat.

We hear the **CHEERY TINKLING MUSIC** of an ice cream truck and the **RINGING** of a bell.

MAN (O.S.)

(CALLING) Ice cream! Ice cream!

Bart and Lisa look at each other, excited, **GASP**, and dash out the front door just in time to hear:

MAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)

I'm all out of ice cream! (TO BART AND

LISA) It's true, you know. Ice cream!

Ice Cream! Fresh out of ice cream!

Bart and Lisa **SIGH** dejectedly. We hear another truck playing **TINKLING** music. Their spirits soar.

ANOTHER MAN

Chili! Red hot, Texas-style chili!

And we got ginger ale! Boiling hot,

Texas-style ginger ale! (BEAT) Texas!

BART

(DISGUSTED NOISE)

LISA

SCENE 2 CONT'D

Face it, Bart. Our salvation isn't
just gonna roll by on the back of some
stupid truck.

Behind them, a huge truck slowly rolls by with the giant words "SPRINGFIELD PARKS DEPT. POOL MOBILE" on the side. We see a large flatbed truck with a shallow swimming pool mounted on its back. We hear **AIR BRAKES** and it rolls to a stop. Inside the cab, OTTO is driving.

ANGLE ON OTTO

A large wave of water sloshes into the driver's seat, drenching him.

OTTO

*

It's just like I'm back in the Navy,
except I don't have two hundred men and
a nuclear warhead under my command.

Bart and Lisa look at each other.

BART/LISA

POOL MOBILE?!!

EXT. STREET - POOL - A SHORT TIME LATER

Lisa and SEVERAL KIDS are **SPLASHING** happily in the pool. Bart suddenly pops out of the water in front of Lisa, holding a bunch of bathing suits.

BART

Look, Lis, I snatched five bathing
suits. All Martin's!

ANGLE ON MARTIN

We see MARTIN'S waist is thick with bathing suits.

MARTIN

(DEFIANT) Take your best shot! I'm
wearing seventeen layers.

Scene 2 Cont'd

Every kid in the pool attacks him, not unlike a school of piranha.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

(CONFIDENT LAUGH) Heh, heh, heh.

(SURPRISED SOUND)

Martin looks down: he's nude.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

I brought this on myself.

Martin runs home.

OTTO

(YELLS) Okay, little dudes, time's up!

Everybody out!

Reluctantly, **COMPLAINING**, kids begin clambering out.

LISA

(SHOCKED) Time's up?!

BART

So long, Lis. I'm gonna stow away
underwater, and go where the pool goes.

(EMBRACES HER) Have a good life.

He pops under the water. Silence. After a short beat, he comes back up, **HUFFING** and **PUFFING**. Otto lifts him out.

OTTO

Sorry, Bart-dude. We gotta fill this
thing with Epsom salts and cart it over
to the old folks' home.

Otto packs up and prepares to drive off.

BART

Oh well. Same time tomorrow, Otto?

OTTO

SCENE 2 CONT'D *

(CHUCKLES) No way. One day a summer
is all we're budgeted for. (MUSING) I
guess it is kind of a tease.

Otto drives off.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM -
LATER THAT DAY

SCENE 3 CONT'D

Homer is on the sofa looking for the remote control. He
sees it on the floor. Just as he's about to grab it, a
foot steps on his hand. Homer looks up to see Bart and
Lisa. They mean business.

LISA

Dad, as you know, we've been swimming.
And we've developed a taste for it. We
both agree that getting our own pool is
the way to go. Now before you respond,
you must understand that your refusal
would result in months and months of...

BART/LISA

CanwehaveapoolDad? CanwehaveapoolDad?
(BUILDING TO A WHINING FRENZY)
CanwehaveapoolDad? CanwehaveapoolDad?
etc.

Lisa gives Bart a hand signal. He stops, mid-word.

HOMER

(WITH DIGNITY) I understand. Let us
celebrate our new arrangement with the
adding of chocolate to milk.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. POOL EMPORIUM - DAY - ESTABLISHING **SCENE 3 CONT'D**

A sign reads: "Pool Sharks!" The sign depicts a large above-ground pool teeming with vicious sharks. The slogan reads: "POOL SHARKS - THE BUYER IS OUR CHUM." The Simpsons car pulls up.

INT. POOL SHARKS! - A LITTLE LATER

The family wanders around the showroom floor. A SALESMAN leads them past a row of identical pools.

SALESMAN

Over here we have "The Hick Tub," "The Insta-Rust," "The Lightning Magnet," "The Tinkler..."

HOMER

(PLEASED) Ooh, The Tinkler. I like the sound of that. We'll take it.

MARGE

Is it true we should wait at least an hour after eating before we go in?

SALESMAN

*

Look, question lady, this job is not what I really do, okay? I play keyboards.

EXT. SIMPSON BACKYARD - NEXT DAY

Another sweltering day. Many parts of the pool are spread out over the ground.

HOMER

(FRIGHTENED) There's just too many parts! They'll never all fit! Never, I tells ya!

He crawls inside the rolled-up aluminum wall and hides.

LISA

SCENE 3 CONT'D

Don't be afraid, Dad. Just follow the
instructions one step at a time.

HOMER

*

Instructions, eh?

We see tight shots of the family building the pool, handing each other tools, carrying heavy strips of materials to **INSPIRING MUSIC** a la "Witness." When the family has finished their handiwork, they dust their hands. They look up to see they have built an aluminum Amish-style barn.

HOMER

All right, everybody in the pool!

An AMISH MAN comes up behind him.

AMISH MAN

'Tis a fine barn, but sure 'tis no
pool, English.

HOMER

(AMISH-STYLE ANNOYED GRUNT)

EXT. SIMPSON BACKYARD - LATE AFTERNOON

The empty pool appears finished.

HOMER

Finished! But with one fatal error:

(HORROR STRUCK) It's upside-down! We
built it upside-down!!

LISA

(WEARILY) No, we didn't.

HOMER

Woo hoo!

The front door bell **RINGS** insistently.

MARGE

SCENE 3 CONT'D

Who could that be...?

Scene 3 Cont'd

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - SECONDS LATER

Marge goes to the front door and opens it. A vast contingent of neighborhood KIDS, all wearing bathing suits and carrying towels, is camped on the Simpson doorstep. JIMBO leads the delegation.

JIMBO

(BASHFUL) Uh, hello, uh, Mrs. Bart.

(OFFHANDED)...Is your pool ready yet?

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Scene 4

The kitchen is overrun with WET KIDS, dripping water and dragging wet towels everywhere. A harried Marge is making many sandwiches at once. Bart traipses by in his bathing suit, still dry, and scarfs a sandwich as he goes.

MARGE

Bart...? (POINTEDLY) Are all these children friends of yours?

BART

(DEFENSIVE, MOUTH FULL) Friends and well-wishers, yes.

A MOB OF WET TEENAGERS troop into the kitchen, and call familiarly to a RUNNY-NOSED KID we've never seen before.

MOB OF TEENAGERS

(TO WRONG KID) Hey, Bart./ Hi, Bart./
etc.

The LAST TEENAGER to go by nods to Marge.

LAST TEENAGER

(DORKY VOICE) Hello, Mrs. Cumberdale.

MARGE

(ANNOYED MURMUR)

EXT. BACKYARD - MOMENTS LATER

SCENE 4 CONT'D

The backyard is a vision of chaos, with kids roaming everywhere. Milhouse and a dozen other kids are happily **SPLASHING** in the pool. Bart climbs up to the roof of his treehouse and preens.

BART

*

It's time to christen this pool with an
entrance for the ages.

KIDS

(CHANTING) Jump, Bart, jump! Jump,
Bart, jump!

Just as he is about to commit to an ambitious dive, NELSON surfaces from underwater.

NELSON

Hey, Bart! Your epidermis is showing!

BART

(MORTIFIED) It is?!! (GASPS)

A DOZEN LITTLE GIRLS

(DERISIVE LAUGHTER)

Bart stumbles in the tree, trying to hide his epidermis.

NELSON

(TO KEARNEY) See, "epidermis" means
your hair...

Bart falls out of the tree.

BART (B.G.)

(FALLING) YAAARRRG!! (SFX: THONK!)

And hits the ground.

NELSON SCENE 4 CONT'D *

...so technically it's true. That's
what makes it so funny. Pardon me a
moment. (TURNS TO BART) Haw, haw.

Bart is on the ground with one leg twisted up in a zigzag.

MILHOUSE

Hey, Nelson. He's really hurt. I
think he broke his leg.

NELSON

(DEFENSIVE) I said, Haw, haw.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

SCENE 5

INT. SPRINGFIELD GENERAL HOSPITAL - CORRIDOR

Bart, on a gurney, is being swiftly wheeled down a long corridor by a team of PARAMEDICS, Homer is at their side. As they rush, they push their way through many swinging doors. Finally they BURST through the last set of swinging doors, to find a massively overcrowded waiting room, where they set him down unceremoniously and leave. A NURSE smoking a cigarette, stands over him.

NURSE

(TO ORDERLY) Get this kid a magazine,

(PUFFS) stat.

INT. DR. HIBBERT'S EXAMINING ROOM - LATER

Bart sits on the examining couch with Homer nearby, as Dr. HIBBERT reads the x-rays.

DR. HIBBERT

(CHUCKLES) Well, well. That's quite a fracture you've got there, Patient X.

BART

(PUZZLED) Patient X? You know me, Doc. I'm Bart Simpson.

DR. HIBBERT

*

Of course. But new regulations require that we maintain anonymity, the better to ration your care. We'll get that leg in a cast, and it'll be good as new just in time for the first day of school.

BART

*

(GROAN)

HOMER

SCENE 5 CONT'D

(CONSOLING) But, he gets to have one of
those waterproof casts so he can go in
the pool, right?

DR. HIBBERT

*

(NERVOUSLY) Well, we'd have to get that
approved by our newly assigned
government health care liaison.

WE see an intense WOMAN in a Maoist jacket and cap.

*

MAOIST WOMAN

*

The people will not tolerate such
bourgeois extravagance.

DR. HIBBERT

*

(NERVOUS CHUCKLE) (DEFEATED MOAN)

HOMER

*

Don't worry, son, I'll fix this.

(SLY; TO MAOIST) Maybe a lit-tle palm
grease will change your tune.

Homer discreetly takes something out of his wallet and
slides it across the desk. The Maoist woman picks up the
piece of paper and examines it.

*

MAOIST WOMAN

*

(READING IT) "Wanted: 100 People to
Earn Money by Gaining Weight"?

Scene 5 Cont'd

HOMER

(HOPEFULLY) Eh? Eh?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BACKYARD - NEXT DAY

Scene 6

Lisa is holding court in the middle of the pool, surrounded by KIDS vying for her attention.

SHERRI

Isn't it amazing the same day you got a pool is the same day we realized we liked you?

TERRI

The timing worked out great. Don't you think?

CUTE BOY

(JUMPING) Lisa! Look at me!

UGLY CHUBBY BOY

(DOES A TRICKY DIVE) No, look at me!

A SECOND CUTE BOY sneaks up behind her and rudely shoves her head underwater, **SNICKERING**.

LISA

(SPLUTTERING) What's the matter with you?!

SECOND CUTE BOY

(GOOFY LAUGH) Hi.

Bart sits glumly by the side of the pool, his leg in an enormous hip-to-ankle plaster cast. WENDELL, LEWIS, and an OLDER BOY pass Bart on their way into the pool and give reluctant HELLOS.

BART

SCENE 6 CONT'D

(EAGER) Hey, guys! Sign my cast?

Guys...?

They all go past him and hop in the pool, **LAUGHING** and playing happily. Bart turns to see Milhouse trying to sneak by him.

BART (CONT'D)

Milhouse!

MILHOUSE

(CAUGHT, EYES DARTING) Uh, hi, Bart.

BART

Faithful Milhouse. You'll spend the long, hot days by my side, won't you?

Bart holds out a pen for Milhouse to sign his cast. Milhouse takes it and begins writing.

MILHOUSE

*

I think I lost my glasses in your pool.
I better go in and find them.

BART

*

But you're wearing your glasses.

MILHOUSE

*

(STONE-WALLING) No, I'm not.

Milhouse runs off.

*

Bart looks crestfallen and desperate. He looks down at his cast and sees it has been signed, "Milpool."

Scene 6 Cont'd

LISA

(NOTICING BART, TO JANEY) Oh, look.

Bart's all alone. Maybe I should keep him company, at least for a little while.

Lisa starts to get out of the pool.

KIDS' VOICES (O.S.)

Hey, Lisa! Look at us! Over here!

She turns to see that Cute Boys #1 & 2 are holding the Chubby Kid underwater and punching him. They smile and wave. So does the Chubby Kid. Lisa is torn between Bart and the kids. Then...

LISA

(CALLING) Coming!

She joins the Cute Boys. Bart sees this and **GROANS** sadly.

BART'S BRAIN

Well, looks like it's just you and me, Barty Boy.

BART

(BITTER) Great. I get to spend the summer with my brain.

INT. BART'S ROOM - LATER

We see Bart looking out of his bedroom window longingly.

BART'S POV

We see an overview of kids playing in the pool below. They are having the greatest summer pool day in history. It turns into a big Busby Berkeley-style number with Lisa in the center of it a la Esther Williams.

CUT TO:

UNDERWATER SHOT

SCENE 6 CONT'D

Lisa swims toward the camera with a big toothy smile, flowers in her hair, and bubbles coming out of her mouth. The children surface and form a circle around Homer who lies in an inner tube and spouts beer out of his mouth like a fountain.

A hand pulls down the window shade, blocking out the view.

BART (O.S.)

*

Traitors. Go on and have your pool.

I'm fine by myself, right here.

He turns on his television.

ON TV

SCENE 7

The art card reads: "ITCHY & SCRATCHY IN 'PLANET OF THE ACHES.'" ITCHY is bricking up SCRATCHY behind a wall in a dungeon. Finished, he dusts his hands and leaves. **CHYRON: 3,000 YEARS LATER.** We see a tight shot of futuristic tools ripping away at the bricks. A horribly emaciated Scratchy with a long white beard emerges. His liberators are a race of FUTURISTIC ITCHYS, with big pulsating brains and wafer thin bodies. Scratchy is at first frightened, but they smile reassuringly and pat him gently. Scratchy relaxes.

DISSOLVE TO LATER: Scratchy steps out of a bath. The Itchys telekinetically make brushes float over and groom him and a long white robe drapes over him. Scratchy **SIGHS**, contentedly. He is led into a Roman-style coliseum, where many BIG BRAIN ITCHY ELDERS sit in the stands, smiling. All of their brains begin **PULSATING**. A trace of worry crosses Scratchy's face. Knives, axes and all forms of destructive tools come flying at him, artfully ripping Scratchy limb from limb. He falls to a pile of bloody goo. The elders all **APPLAUD**. The cartoon ends.

We see Krusty's audience **CHEER**. Krusty pops out from behind the curtain.

BART

*

Ah, I'll just spend the summer getting
better acquainted with an old friend
called Television.

KRUSTY

SCENE 7 CONT'D *

(LAUGHS) Hope you enjoyed that, kids,
'cause Krusty's outta here for the
summer. In the meantime, we'll be
running (ROLLS EYES) (GROANS) "Classic
Krusty." Enjoy.

We see black and white footage from an old Krusty show circa 1963. We see a one on one talk show set with modern tube chairs and a small coffee table with beverage a la David Susskind. A thinner, less balding, more CONSERVATIVE KRUSTY, wearing a jacket and skinny tie, sits in one of the chairs, smoking.

An old time video chyron reads: "THE KRUSTY THE CLOWN SHOW." A PBS-type theme **PLAYS**. The lights come up on Krusty.

YOUNG KRUSTY

(SUBDUED KRUSTY LAUGH) Good evening.
Tonight my guest is AFL-CIO chairman
George Meany, who will be discussing
collective bargaining agreements.

GEORGE

Good evening, Krusty.

YOUNG KRUSTY

Let me be very blunt. Is there a labor
crisis in America today?

BART

(GROANS)

EXT. BACKYARD - DAYS LATER - SUNRISE

Homer has risen early for a morning swim. Birds are **CHIRPING**, no one is astir. As he climbs the pool ladder, he savors the peace and quiet.

Scene 7 Cont'd

HOMER

(SERENE) Ah...There's nothing like
rising with the sun for a quiet,
peaceful dip in your very own pool.

He dives athletically from atop the ladder. As he dives:

HOMER

(INCREDIBLY LOUD, OBNOXIOUS WHOOP)

He lands in the water with an enormous **SPLASH** that seems to send half the water out of the pool. When he emerges, he is covered from head to toe with green algae and pool scum.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(DISGUSTED) YAAARR--Ewwwwwww!!

Lisa comes out of the house.

LISA

Dad... You have to put chlorine in the
water every day, to keep it clean.

HOMER

Chlorine, eh?

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY - LATER

The pool is now filled with children again, wincing and rubbing their eyes in pain. Several children are bleached albino-white, among them RALPH WIGGUM. We see Milhouse with bleach-blond hair.

KIDS

It burns! It burns!

RALPH WIGGUM

(RUBBING EYES) My face is on fire!...

MARGE

SCENE 7 CONT'D

(ALARMED) Homer!! How much chlorine
did you put in?!

Homer is holding an enormous industrial-size drum of
chlorine, which is now empty. Homer **WHISTLES** innocently
for a beat, then throws the drum down and runs off. *

*

MARGE

*

(LOOKING UP, THEN TO LISA) Oh, look.

There's Bart. Wave to him.

We see Bart's eyes peering out from behind the window
shade, watching them. As soon as Marge and Lisa wave, he
instantly pulls the shade shut in a disturbing fashion. *

MARGE (CONT'D)

Hmm, maybe we should spend more time
with Bart. He's becoming isolated and
weird.

INT. BART'S BEDROOM - LATER

SCENE 8

Bart is sitting in the dark. His room is a mess, piled
with comic books, half built models, and unfinished string
art projects. He has dark circles under his eyes, and is
playing "Stratego" all by himself, making the pieces talk
to each other.

BART

(SOLDIER VOICE) I swear I don't know
where the bombs are! Only the Miners
know that! (EVIL VOICE) Maybe this
will loosen your tongue! (SOLDIER
VOICE, GASPING) No! Nooo!!

Lisa pokes her head in the door.

SCENE 8 CONT'D

LISA

Uh, Bart...?

BART

(FURIOUS) Don't turn on that light!!

LISA

Sorry. I just came to see how you were feeling.

BART

(DEFENSIVE) I'm fine. Just fine.

LISA

*

(PICKING UP SOME PAPERS) What are you writing here? A play?

BART

*

(LYING) Uh, no.

LISA

*

(READING) "Cast of Characters: Viceroy Fizzlebottom, a hearty cherub of a man..."

BART

(FURIOUSLY) Gimme that! (GRABS IT AWAY) It's a work in progress.

(CHANGING THE SUBJECT) So. How you like being Miss Popularity?

LISA

SCENE 8 CONT'D

(RESERVED) Oh, well, y'know, it ain't
so great. (OFF HIS LOOK, CONFESSING
WILDLY) Bart, it's the best thing that
ever happened to me in my life!
(CATCHING HERSELF) Well, anyway, I uh,
brought you a present.

She hands him an oblong, gift-wrapped box. SCENE 8 CONT'D

LISA (CONT'D)

It's the telescope I won at the Optics
Festival.

BART

*

(ACIDLY) There was an Optics Festival
and I wasn't informed? (GRUFF) You go
now.

*

*

A slightly freaked Lisa backs out. Beat. Bart picks up a
copy of "Mad" magazine.

BART (CONT'D)

What have we here...(READING)

"Greeting Cards We'd Like to See".

(NERDY CHUCKLE) How skewed.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY

SCENE 9

A bunch of kids are in the backyard, staring up at Bart's
window, where we can see Bart's silhouette behind the drawn
window shade.

FIRST KID

See that shadow up there? Some say
that's Lisa's crazy half-brother.

Scene 9 Cont'd

SECOND KID

I heard they hide him in the attic 'cos
he has tentacles for arms.

MILHOUSE

I heard he ran a guy over in a parking
lot.

Lisa, who has overheard all this, becomes angry.

LISA

(CURT) Hey!

MILHOUSE

Uh, I was just makin' small-talk.

Lisa storms off in a huff.

MILHOUSE (CONT'D)

(CALLING, APOLOGETIC) But...I can
still go in your pool, right?

EXT. BACKYARD - NIGHT

In pitch darkness, we hear small sounds of **SPLASHING** and
then Marge and Homer **GIGGLING**.

MARGE (V.O.)

This was a lovely idea, Homey. (COY)

Come here and kiss me.

HOMER (V.O.)

(ROMANTIC) Mmmm....

Suddenly, we hear the loud **WHIRR** of a **HELICOPTER**. A
blinding searchlight shines down on Homer and Marge, who
are skinny-dipping. They **SCREAM** and try to cover
themselves. We see Wiggum and Eddie above in the chopper,
MUNCHING popcorn from a bag.

Scene 9 Cont'd

WIGGUM

(THROUGH MEGAPHONE) Do not be alarmed.

Continue swimming naked.

INT. BART'S BEDROOM - NIGHT - A LITTLE LATER

TELESCOPE POV

His view PANS across the majesty of the heavens. We see stars, constellations, planets, comets, and a spectacular meteor shower.

BART (V.O.)

Bo-ring.

We PULL BACK to see Bart looking through the telescope.

BART

I know, I'll use this to peer into the
seamy underside of Springfield.

He PANS straight down into the window of a nearby house, just in time to catch JAILBIRD breaking in and crawling in a window. Jailbird runs over to an OLD WOMAN and puts his hands around her neck.

BART (CONT'D)

(GASP) He's strangling that old lady!

We get closer on Jailbird to see he's really shaking the woman awake.

JAILBIRD

You okay, grandma? I knocked three
times and you didn't answer.

OLD WOMAN

I'm tired. You know I'm working two
jobs to put you through college.

She hugs him.

JAILBIRD

SCENE 9 CONT'D

(EYES DARTING) Yeah, college. Boolah-
boolah.

BART

(RELIEVED) Oh.

Bart peers into another window just in SCENE 10 *
time to catch a SCARY MAN pushing ANOTHER MAN'S HEAD
underwater. The other man thrashes around.

BART *

(GASPS) He's drowning that man!

After a moment, the man comes up with an apple in his *
mouth.

SCARY MAN

Good job. The next time, try it by
yourself.

PULL BACK to see the sign: SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE OF APPLE
BOBBING.

BART

Of course.

Suddenly Bart hears the blood-curdling **SHRIEK** of a woman.

BART (CONT'D)

That came from Flanders' house.

Bart whips his scope over to the Flanders' window. He sees
a very distraught Ned staring at something on the floor.
Ned looks at his hands.

NED

Ohmygod! What have I done? I've
killed her!

Ned quickly pulls down the shades in the room.

BART SCENE 10 CONT'D *

Oh no! Wait. I'm not going to get
suckered again. This is Flanders we're
talking about.

Bart pushes the telescope away.

BART (CONT'D)

Ah, I'll just watch some TV.

Bart flicks on the TV.

ON TV

"CLASSIC KRUSTY" is still on: we see a younger, thinner,
Krusty in a Nehru jacket.

KRUSTY *

Now, what you've all been waiting for.

Another long "raga" by Ravi Shankar.

We see a MAN start to **PLAY** a sitar.

KRUSTY (CONT'D)

Groovy, man.

BACK TO SCENE

BART

(GROANS)

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BART'S BEDROOM - LATER

Bart in bed is awakened by the **SOUND** of **FRANTIC SHOVELING**.
He looks out the window and sees Flanders furtively digging
a grave in his backyard. Bart makes a frightened **NOISE**.

BART

SCENE 10 CONT'D

This can't be what it looks like.

There's got to be some other
explanation.

NED

I wish there was some other explanation
for this. But there isn't. I'm a
murderer! I'm a murderer!

BART

*

Then that's not the real Ned Flanders.
It's got to be an imposter.

NED

How could I do this to my own wife
Maude? I'm a murdiddly-erdiler.

Bart reacts.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

Scene 11

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - NEXT MORNING - ESTABLISHING

We see Bart at the window, looking through the telescope. Reflected in the lens, we see ROD and TODD. The scope follows them over to Ned, who stands guiltily in the back yard.

TELESCOPE POV

TODD

Daddy, where's Mommy? We miss her.

NED

Mommy had to go away. She's with God,
now.

ROD/TODD

Yay! Can we go there too?

NED

Soon enough.

ANGLE ON BART

He's been listening.

BART

(GASP) He's gonna kill Rod and Todd,
too... That's horrible. (BEAT) In
principle.

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - BACKYARD - LATER THAT DAY

Kids are in the pool. Lisa is in the center on a floating beach chair, holding court. Nelson surfaces next to her.

NELSON

Look, Lisa. I found this change on the
bottom of the pool. You can have it.

LISA

SCENE 11 CONT'D

Thanks, Nelson.

Ralph Wiggum pops to the surface, **GASPING** for air.

RALPH

Somebody took my juice money.

A YOUNG ENGLISH BOY swims up next to Lisa.

ENGLISH BOY

Lisa, please join my family for a weekend in the country. There'll be hunting, charades (sha-rods), and ever so many delightful romantic misunderstandings.

LISA'S BRAIN

They're only using you for your pool, you know.

LISA

(TO BRAIN) Quit it, brain.

LISA'S BRAIN

*

(SING-SONG) They're us-ing you.

(ADDING VERY QUICKLY) By the way, the science of genetics was pioneered by a monk named Gregor Mendel.

Scene 11 Cont'd

LISA

(TO BRAIN) Shut up, brain! I got friends. I don't need you anymore.

(DUMB LISA VOICE TO ENGLISH BOY) Duh, I'd love to go to your house. (STUPID CHORTLE)

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. MARTIN PRINCE'S BACKYARD - THAT MOMENT

WORKMEN are putting the finishing touches on a gigantic, gleaming, very impressive above-ground swimming pool with a volleyball net, a redwood deck, etc.

MARTIN

Ah, my plan has come to fruition. Soon

I'll be queen of summertime. (QUICKLY

CORRECTING) King, king!

EXT. SIMPSON BACKYARD - DAY - A LITTLE LATER

Lisa, wearing sun block goggles, floats happily in the crowded pool in all her glory. DOLPH whispers something to Jimbo. Jimbo **WHISPERS** to KEARNEY.

JIMBO

Dude, buzz has it an even wussier kid

has an even better pool than this.

There's instantly a mass exodus of kids up the ladder and over the side of the pool. The water level radically drops. When the water gets down to a few inches, Lisa's raft **THONKS** on the bottom. She pulls off her goggles.

LISA'S POV

The high wall of the pool. Lisa stands up off of her chair.

Scene 11 Cont'd

LISA

Uh, hello? Hello! Hey, I'm stuck in here. I gotta think of a way to get out.

LISA'S BRAIN

(SMUGLY) Well, well, well. Look who's come crawling back.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - BART'S ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Scene 12

Homer, Marge and Lisa are standing in front of Bart's bed, looking at a crazed, disheveled Bart.

BART

Listen, Ned Flanders murdered his wife.

HOMER

But why? She's such a fox. (OFF MARGE'S LOOK) I mean, what's on Fox tonight? Something ribald, no doubt.

MARGE

Bart, I wish you'd stop spreading bad rumors about people. Remember how you got Grampa tarred and feathered?

BART

Sure. That was twenty minutes ago.

A tarred and feathered GRAMPA walks by the door.

GRAMPA

Gonna be in the tub for awhile.

Scene 12 Cont'd

BART

But this time I have proof! OK, not proof. I have drawings that I made of how he might have murdered her. (SHOWS SHEAF OF DRAWINGS) Plus, he's been looking incredibly guilty... I think I really captured him in this one.

GRAMPA (O.S.)

Help, help! I'm stuck to the terlit.

Homer and Marge exit.

INT. BART'S BEDROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Bart is glued looking through his telescope. Lisa is sitting talking to Bart.

LISA

Bart, I'm really sorry I've been ignoring you these last couple of weeks. I got carried away with being popular and powerful, but now that I'm lonely and bored, I want you to know I'm here for you.

BART

You can start makin' it up to me now. Flanders is leaving the house. I want you to sneak in there and bring me back some evidence... and something sweet for later.

BART'S TELESCOPE POV

SCENE 12 CONT'D

Ned, Rod and Todd climb into the family car, and drive off.

LISA

Bart, I'm not gonna break into
somebody's house.

BART

(COY) You're right. Let's forget
about that. Let me read to you from my
play. (READING) "Kippers for
breakfast, Aunt Helga? Is it St.
Swivens day already?" "Tis," replies
Aunt Helga.

LISA

I'm goin', I'm goin!

BART'S POV - A FEW MINUTES LATER

SCENE 13

Bart watches Lisa walk across the yard to Flanders' backdoor. She looks around and carefully opens it. A pleasant **CHIME ALARM SOUNDS** and a red light flashes.

ALARM (V.O)

*

(FLANDERS' VOICE) Howdy intruder!

Take what you must, my needy friend.

All we ask is that you wipe your feet.

Lisa enters the house. Bart watches as Lisa skulks through the house. She opens the freezer door. She pulls out a frosted bag that reads: **HUMAN HEAD**.

BART

(GASP) A human head!

Scene 13 Cont'd

Lisa looks concerned and wipes the frost off the package. We see it reads: SCHUMAN FARMS HEAD OF LETTUCE. Bart lets out a **SIGH** of relief. He then sees Flanders car pull in the driveway.

BART (CONT'D)

Oh no. He's back. Flanders is back!

Lisa, get outta there!

Lisa cannot hear him and heads upstairs.

BART (CONT'D)

No, Lisa, don't go upstairs. You'll be trapped!

Lisa now appears in the upstairs window. Flanders now enters the kitchen brandishing an axe.

BART (CONT'D)

An axe! He's got an axe. I gotta call the police.

Bart dials 911.

POLICE DEPT. MACHINE

(A LA MOVIE PHONE) Hello and welcome to the Springfield Police Department Resc-U-Fone. If you know the name of the felony being committed, press one. To choose from a list of felonies, press two. If you are being murdered or are calling from a rotary phone, please stay on the line.

BART

(FRUSTRATED NOISE)

Bart frantically pushes a few buttons.

SCENE 13 CONT'D

POLICE DEPARTMENT MACHINE *

You have selected "regicide." If you
know the name of the King or Queen
being murdered, press one...

Bart hangs up in disgust. He quickly looks in the
telescope.

BART'S POV

An unsuspecting Lisa reaches Flanders roll-top desk. She
slides it open. Bart PANS the telescope down to see
Flanders heading up the stairs with the axe.

BART

(SCREAMS) I'll save you, cast or no
cast!

Bart takes a step towards the door and immediately puts his
cast through a basketball hoop mounted on a trash can. He
tries to get his foot out, but it's stuck.

BART (CONT'D)

Gotta save Lisa, trash can or no trash
can! (BEAT) Well, it's not gonna be
no trash can.

He begins awkwardly hobbling down the stairs.

CUT TO:

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE

Bart **BURSTS** out and immediately puts his trash can-laden
foot through a thick coiled garden hose.

BART

(ANNOYED GRUNT)

He keeps struggling forward with the trash can and *
hose on his foot. As he does, he shish-kabobs a square of
sod with his cast. With each step he takes, he picks up
another chunk of sod.

CUT TO:

INT. FLANDERS HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY

Scene 14

Lisa sees Flanders' shadow coming up the stairs, brandishing the axe.

NED (O.S.)

(SINGING QUIETLY) Mary had a Little
lamb / Little lamb / Little lamb...

LISA

(GASPS)

She looks frantically for a place to hide. Looking up, she spots the attic ladder and pulls it down. She scurries up into the attic, and pulls the ladder up after her.

INT. ATTIC

Lisa cowers, terrified, in the darkened room. A beat. The attic ladder is slowly and **CREAKILY** opened.

LISA

(TERRIFIED WHIMPER)

We see the blade of the axe and the top of Ned's head as he slowly comes up the steps.

CUT TO:

INT. FLANDERS HOUSE - DOORWAY FOYER

The door opens and Bart, **GRUNTING** and **STRAINING**, pulls himself through. In addition to the trash can, hose and squares of sod, there is now a step ladder jammed onto his cast leg, as well as a tangled leash attached to a **GROWLING** DOG we've never seen before.

CUT TO:

INT. ATTIC

TIGHT ON FLANDERS

NED

It's time to put you away.

He raises the axe just as Bart emerges behind him. Bart **GASPS**.

Scene 14 Cont'd

NED (CONT'D)

Put you away for good.

Ned starts to bring the axe down. Lisa braces herself for the blow and **SCREAMS**.

NED (CONT'D)

(STARTLED NOISE) What the gumdrops are you kids doing here?

BART

Gumdrops, nothing. What are you doing with that axe?

NED

You mean this axe? I was just gonna store it away in this safety axe receptacle.

Ned simply **SNAPS** the axe into an axe holder on the wall. Underneath the axe holder there is a sign that reads: "Only you can prevent 'AX-CIDENTS.'"

LISA

You mean you weren't gonna murder me the way you murdered your wife?

NED

(SHOCKED) Murder? Murdered? (GIRLISH SWOON)

Ned faints dead away.

EXT. FLANDERS' FRONT YARD

Scene 15

The Flanders family, Bart, Lisa, Homer, Marge, Wiggum, EDDIE, and LOU are all outside.

Scene 15 Cont'd.

MAUDE

Murdered? I've just been in the
country for a week.

BART

(TO NED) But I distinctly heard you say
that Maude was with God.

MAUDE

That's right. I was at Bible camp. I
was learning how to be more judgmental.

BART

(TO NED) But I saw the murder, and then
I saw you bury the corpse in the
backyard.

NED

(BREAKING DOWN) It's true. I am a
murderer. I over-watered Maude's
favorite ficus plant, panicked, then
buried the remains. (OFF MAUDE'S LOOK,
MEEKLY) I was hoping to replace it
before you got home.

BART

(DISBELIEVING) But I heard a woman
scream.

NED

Huh? Now that I can't explain.

Lou thrusts a decaying plant into frame.

LOU

SCENE 15 CONT'D

*

We found it, chief.

NED

(WOMAN'S BLOOD-CURDLING SCREAM)

BART

Oh, well I guess that explains
everything.

HOMER

(SLYLY) Not everything. There's still
the little matter of the whereabouts of
your wife.

MAUDE

(WAVING HER HAND) Um, I'm right here.

HOMER

*

(DRIPPING SARCASM) Oh, I see. Then
everything is wrapped up in a neat
little package. (OFF THEIR ANNOYED
LOOKS) Really, I mean that. Sorry if I
sounded sarcastic.

EXT. MARTIN PRINCE'S BACKYARD - A LITTLE LATER

Martin's pool is dangerously packed to overcapacity with
every **SCREAMING**, jumping kid in Springfield. Martin
himself floats above the ruckus on an enormous rubber raft,
presiding over the mayhem in a velvet smoking jacket.

MARTIN

More friends! More allies! More, I
say! Hang those who talk of less!
There's a few inches over here, ho!

Scene 15 Cont'd

ANGLE ON THE POOL WALL

which is straining. The last kid jumps in. Cracks appear in the supports, and the whole pool dramatically **BURSTS**. The water floods out, spilling **SCREAMING** wet children all over the yard.

MARTIN

(WEEPING) My precious pool, and its
lifestyle accoutrements! Nooo!!

The children begin to leave, **HISSING** and **GRUMBLING**. Martin sadly watches them go. After a moment, Nelson runs back, pulls off Martin's bathing suit, and leaves.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

(RESIGNED) Ah, the gentle caress of a
summer breeze.

Martin stands there for a long beat. Familiar **MUSIC** fades in.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

(SINGING) The summer wind / Came
blowing in / From across the sea / etc.

FADE OUT:

THE END